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September 22, 2003

**MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Application of Shinya YAMASAKI and Hidemitsu AOKI  
ETCHING AND CLEANING METHODS AND ETCHING AND CLEANING  
APPARATUS USED THEREFOR  
Assignee: NEC CORPORATION  
Our Ref: Q77313

Dear Sir:

This is a request for a Divisional Application of pending prior Application No. 09/525,445 (Confirmation No.8436) filed March 24, 2000 of Shinya YAMASAKI and Hidemitsu AOKI entitled ETCHING AND CLEANING METHODS AND ETCHING AND CLEANING APPARATUS USED THEREFOR.

This application is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). Enclosed is a specification, including the claims and abstract, 17 sheets of drawings, and a copy of the Declaration as filed in the prior application.

The prior application is assigned to Group Art Unit 1765.

Priority is claimed from:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
JAPAN	068898/1999	March 15, 1999

The priority document was filed in parent Application No. 09/525,445.

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	26	-	20	=	6	x	\$18.00	=	\$108.00
Independent claims	2	-	3	=		x	\$84.00	=	\$0.00
Base Fee									\$750.00

<b>TOTAL FILING FEE</b>	<b><u>\$858.00</u></b>
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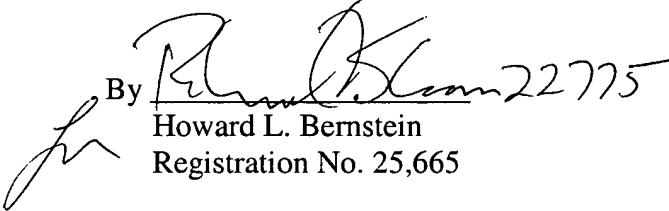
Commissioner for Patents  
Divisional of Application No. 09/525,445  
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A check for the statutory fee of \$858.00 is attached. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

The application is timely filed.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Attorneys for Applicant

By   
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